

the greatness, and study the virtues of the august Virgin Mary, Mother of God and our own Mother.

It was at Rome that the devotion of the month of Mary took birth, yet the author of so holy a practice is unknown. All that is known is that it was a holy priest that undertook the establishing of this sublime and consoling devotion. And if you wish to understand why he selected the month of May in preference to any other month, you may receive the explanation from the consecrated lips of another holy priest. "When one makes an offering," says Father Lalomia; "he should choose what is best and most pleasing. This is why the most beautiful month of the year has been selected, which, by the renovation of nature and the agreeable variety of flowers wherewith the earth is covered, seems to invite the soul to recognize grace, to clothe itself with most beautiful acts of virtue, to make of them, as it were, a crown for the Queen of the Universe."

The marvelous fruits which the devotion of the month of Mary soon produced, had the effect of inducing the Sovereign Pontiff Pius VII., to favor it by enriching it with the treasures of the Church. Under this new impulse the little stream soon became a great river, which had brought fertility and abundance to the whole earth. And now the mustard seed has produced a tree whose branches offer a sure refuge and delicious shelter in need of consolation and grace.

Hence, during the month of Mary, from the humblest country sanctuary, as from the proudest basilicas, are heard hymns in honor of Mary, and there at the foot of her revered statue, the rich and the poor, the learned and the ignorant, the whole world over, bend in one and the same love. They all have but one heart and one voice to love and praise Mary, for they all feel and have experienced how great and powerful is

the protection which she extends unto those who place themselves under the mantle of her charity.

Oh! let us hasten to our Mother; let us, during the coming month, often contemplate with ardent love this masterpiece of the Almighty; let us implore her unbounded confidence; let us offer ourselves to Mary with filial love; let us consecrate ourselves anew to her service; in a word, let us unite, in spirit, in all the fervent prayers and exercises of the Month of Mary.

B. V.

To The Silent Heart of Jesus.

BY S. M. C.

Silent Heart of our lonely Saviour,
Silent Heart of our hidden King,
A sinful soul and a silent sorrow,
These are the only gems I bring.
Glowing rubies of love and fervor,
Pearls of innocence pure and bright,
Brilliant jewels of saintly courage,
Others bring Thee in caskets white.
I have nothing but silence—silence,
Deep and still as the ocean's breast
After the stormy voice of Neptune
Has sobbed itself with a quiet rest.
Ah, silent Heart, I can feel Thee beating,
Can feel Thee burning with love for all!
The noise of the world is faint and distant,
And the light gleams bright
While the shadows fall,
Silence to-night is sweetly speaking,
Drawing Thy weary child to Thee.
Clothing her soul with Thy holy stillness,
May it speak in a joyous eternity.

Alas For Our Poor Doomed Indians!

Are our Catholic people generally aware that the present administration, contrary to our anticipations, is in favor of certainly and finally abolishing the appropriations to the Catholic contract schools among the Indians? Both the Senate and the House committees are in favor of the policy of the administration, and the Protestant majority in the country in this unequal contest for the religious education of the poor savages is about to triumph, and the poor savage is to be left in his savagery or a small remnant be trained in a godless